

Message Text

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44

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FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0256

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS : PFOR GV SO

SUBJECT : SIAD VISIT STRENGTHENS GUINEA/SOMALI TIES

REF: CONAKRY 1660

1. GENERAL SIAD AND HIS PARTY OF 30 DEPARTED CONAKRY MORNING NOV 11, AFTER FOUR ACTIVE DAYS OF VISITS TO INTERIOR CITIES, FIVE CONAKRY CULTURAL EVENINGS, AND THE ISSUANCE OF A LONG JOINT COMMUNIQUE WHICH EMPHASIZED POLITICAL RAPPORT BETWEEN TWO GOVERNMENTS. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED NO REPORT INDICATING ANY BREAKTHROUGH ON WHAT HAD BEEN EXPECTED TO BE PRIMARY TOPIC OF DISCUSSION BETWEEN SIAD AND PRESIDENT TOURE, I.E.,
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GUINEA'S DISPUTES WITH SENEGAL AND THE IVORY COAST. BUT

SIAD'S SPEECHES GREW MORE "MILITANT" AND "REVOLUTIONARY" AS THE VISIT PROGRESSED, AND HIS DEPARTURE INTERVIEW INDICATED THAT HE WAS IMPRESSED WITH THEVQNTENSIVE COURSE HE WAS GIVEN IN THE DETAILS OF THE GUINEAN "REVOLUTION" (IDEOLOGICAL INDOCTRINATION, PARTY STRUCTURE, MASS ORGANIZATION, EXTREME POSITIONS ON INTERNATIONAL QUESTIONS SUCH AS DECOLONIZATION, ANTI-CAPITALIST RHETORIC).

2. SIAD REPORTEDLY PLANS TO CONTINUE TRAVELLING TO SEVERAL OTHER AFRICAN COUNTRIES, APPARENTLY ON A PLAN-AS-YOU-GO BASIS, USING A PLANE PROVIDED BY ALGERIAN PRESIDENT BOUMEDIENNE, BEFORE RETURNING TO MOGADISCIO IN EARLY DECEMBER. HE REPORTEDLY ASKED TO VISIT LAGOS ON NOV 26, BUT WAS INFORMED BY NIGERIAN OFFICIALS DURING HIS STAY HERE THAT THE VISIT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE UNTIL EARLY DECEMBER. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE PURPOSE OF LAST FRIDAY'S VISIT TO CONAKRY BY A SENIRO SIERRA LEONE DELEGATION WAS TO ASK SIAD TO POSTPONE A VISIT TO FREETOWN. NO EXACT TRAVEL PLANS, EVEN FOR SIAD'S NEXT STOP, WERE MADE PUBLIC HERE.

3. FINAL COMMUNIQUE WAS MORE MODERATELY WORDED THAN MOST GOG STATEMENTS ON INTERNATIONAL QUESTIONS. COMMUNIQUE CONDEMNED FRENCH AND BRITISH CONTROL OF DJIBOUTI, COMORES AND SEYCHELLES, BUT THERE WAS NO SPECIFIC MENTION OF SOMALI CLAIMS TO OGADEN. REFERENCES TO GUINEA-BISSAU, MOZAMBIQUE, ETC., WERE MORE FAVORABLE TO PORTUGUESE THAN WE ARE ACCUSTOMED TO HEARING HERE, THOUGH STATEMENT CRITICIZED ALLEGED NATO ROLE RE CAPE VERDE ISLANDS. COMMUNIQUE ATTACKED US, UK AND FRENCH VETOES OF UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION TO EXPEL SOUTH AFRICA (FIRST PUBLIC MENTION OF VETOES IN GUINEA). SECTIONS ON OTHER INTERNATIONAL ISSUES (VIETNAM, CAMBODIA, MIDDLE EAST, ETC) WERE BOILERPLATE, WITH PERHAPS ADDED EMPHASIS SUPPORTING PLO AND PALESTINIAN RM

4. COMMENT: GUINEA AND SOMALIA, AND THEIR TWO PRESIDENTS, PROBABLY FOUND MANY THINGS IN COMMON AND PROBABLY STRENGTHENED EACH OTHER'S VIEWS OF AFRICAN AND OTHER PROBLEMS. GUINEA'S FEUD WITH SENEGAL AND IVORY COAST IS PROBABLY TOO DEEP ROOTED TO BE INFLUENCED BY ANY SIAD DEMARCHE; IT IS NOTEWORTHY, HOWEVER, THAT JOINT COMMUNIQUE DID NOT CONTAIN ANTI-SENGHOR OR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ANTI-HOUPHOUET ALLUSIONS. GENERAL SIAD, JUDGING FROM TENOR OF HIS SPEEVHES (ALL DELIVERED IN ENGLISH), SEEMED INCREASINGLY IMPRESSED WITH GUINEA'S REVOLUTIONARY IDEOLOGY AND MASS INDOCTRINATION, AND MAY HAVE PICKED UP SOME NEW POINTERS FOR USE WHEN HE RETURNS TO MOGADISCIO. SIAD INVITED SEKOU TOURE TO VISIT SOMALIA, WHICH TOURE ACCEPTED. NO DATES WERE MENTIONED.

TODMAN

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